

State Water Resources Control Board



Office of Research, Planning, and Performance

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Arnold Schwarzenegger

TO:

Ken Landau, Assistant Executive Officer

Central Valley Region Water Quality Control Board

Sacramento

FROM:

Gerald W. Bowes, Ph.D., Manager

Cal/EPA Scientific Peer Review Program

Office of Research, Planning and Performance

DATE:

December 28, 2009

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR EXTERNAL PEER REVIEWERS FOR PROPOSED

BASIN PLAN AMENDMENTS TO ADD WATER QUALITY

OBJECTIVES FOR SPECIFIED TRIHALOMETHANES FOR NEW

ALAMO AND ULATIS CREEKS

In response to your request for peer reviewers for the subject noted above, the University of California, through an Interagency Agreement with Cal/EPA, identified candidates it considered qualified to perform this assignment. Each candidate was required to complete and sign a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form and send it to me for review.

I subsequently requested these individuals to provide clarification where necessary, and written confirmation they could perform an objective and independent review.

I provided candidates who were approved as reviewers my latest (January 7, 2009) supplement to the Cal/EPA peer review guidelines, and am attaching it here. Please read it carefully. In part it provides guidance to ensure confidentiality through the peer review process.

The Supplement also notes reviewers are under no obligation to discuss their comments with third parties representing special intests after reviews have been submitted, and we recommend that they do not.

Reviewers must keep their identities confidential, and I ask that you do also to avoid compromising the external review. Reviewers approved to date are identified below.

 Steve E. Hrudey, Ph.D., President, Steve E. Hrudey & Associates Ltd. 10161 Lawrence Grassi Ridge Canmore, AB T1W 3C2

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Analytical & Environmental Toxicology Division,
Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry
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Biographical information for the approved reviewers is attached to this memorandum.

Please contact your reviewers right away. Tell them when you will transmit the material. They have accepted the assignment based on the date of availability given in your letter of request to me. If preparation of the material is delayed, ask them if the new date is acceptable, including me as a "cc." If subsequent delays occur, inform the reviewers and me as soon as possible. I am often contacted by reviewers and the University if delays occur and reviewers are not kept up to date.

If the number of pages you plan to send the reviewers is significant, I recommend you provide them a hard copy of this material. You can enquire if any would prefer an electronic copy as well. Ask them; (1) if their preferred mailing address is the same as that given above; and (2) to provide whatever additional information is necessary for an overnight delivery service.

Provide a cover letter to initiate the review process. Include with it your request letter to me, which provides a concise synopsis of your intended actions, and its three attachments. Please inform them that their review must:

- (1) follow the guidance provided in Attachment 2;
- (2) address the topics listed in Attachment 2, as expertise allows, <u>in the order</u> given.

When the reviews have been completed, please let me know and send me your cover letter to the reviewers and a copy of each review for the files I keep here.

If I can provide additional help, contact me at any time during the review process.

Attachments

cc: Betty Yee, Central Valley Regional Board, Sacramento Holly Grover, Central Valley Regional Board, Sacramento Rik Rasmussen, Division of Water Quality, SWRCB, Sacramento